

# TreeLink News Bulletin

## In the works



**European Larch**  
*Larix decidua*

The 1-1/2 inches (4 cm) long, soft, needlelike leaves are borne singly on long shoots and in dense whorls on side shoots. The leaves are bright green in the summer and turn yellow in the autumn. The bark is gray when young and becomes red-brown and fissured with age. The male flowers are yellow and drooping, while the female flowers are red, upright, in distinct clusters. The brown cone is upright, egg-shaped, and 1-1/2 inches (4 cm) long. This beautiful deciduous conifer grows to a height of 130 feet (40 m), and is brilliant in its fall display.

-Courtesy of Allen J. Coombes



WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF  
**Natural Resources**  
Jennifer M. Belcher - Commissioner of Public Lands

The new year is upon us and, with that, so is a whole new opportunity to spread the word about urban and community forestry. As some of you may know by now, Tish Carr, the former Program Coordinator, has accepted a position with Maine as their Urban Forestry Program Coordinator. She will be missed, but the Urban and Community Forestry Program promises to keep up its high standard for public assistance and, with your help, will continue to grow. Some of the things you will see in the coming year are: an exciting grant program, a renewed spirit of cooperation between the Urban and Community Forestry Programs of the Pacific Northwest and non-profit community action groups, the Ninth National Urban Forest Conference in Seattle, increased partnerships with utility service providers, and much more. With all of the attention being placed on the Pacific Northwest on the threshold of a new century, let us all remember the words, "The best time to plant a tree was fifty years ago, the second best time is today." - K.L.

## Tree Line USA Comes to Washington

The Urban and Community Forestry Program is pleased to recognize Chelan County PUD and Peninsula Light Company as Washington's first Tree Line USA recipients. The National Arbor Day Foundation (NADF) founded the award program to recognize utilities for national leadership in utility arboriculture while meeting service objectives. Applying utilities are required to meet three criteria: formally adopt quality tree care practices, document annual worker training, and carry out tree planting and public education activities. For more information, contact the TreeLink Hotline at 1-800-523-8733.

## National Conference on Financing the Urban Forest

On January 20-22 a group of state urban and community forestry coordinators, municipal foresters, parks and recreation managers, tree board members, non-profit organizers, and many others will be meeting at the Arbor Day Farm's Lied Conference Center in Nebraska City, Nebraska. As traditional sources of funding become scarce, municipalities and community organizations must seek innovative funding mechanisms to ensure the continued health of their urban forestry programs. If you would like to join these professionals and concerned citizens from across the country, call NADF at (402) 474-5655.

## Landscape Conference in Spokane

The 13th Annual Inland Northwest Turf, Tree & Landscape Conference is scheduled for February 4-5 at the Doubletree Hotel in Spokane, Washington. The featured speaker will be Dr. Kim Coder from the University of Georgia. Attendance at the Conference is good for up to five pesticide recertification credits and up to 11 ISA continuing education units. Early registration must be in no later than January 8. The Conference fee is \$109 if pre-registered. Group rates are available. More information is available at [www.eus.wsu.edu/c&i](http://www.eus.wsu.edu/c&i), or by calling (509) 335-3530.

## Neighborhood Trees for Seattle Residents

Working towards Mayor Schell's goal of 20,000 trees planted by Earth Day 2000, the Neighborhood Matching Fund is announcing availability of trees for April neighborhood planting projects along streets and in parks. Neighborhood groups across Seattle can apply for between 10 and 40 trees chosen from a list provided by the Department of Neighborhoods (DON). Applications must be approved by the Park's Urban Forester or the Arborist's Office by January 15. Applications must be received by DON by January 30. To request an application or get more information, call Michael Benson (206) 684-0215 or Laurie Adams (206) 684-0215.

## Get Certified

Washington Association of Landscape Professionals has joined forces with the Association of Landscape Contractors to offer the Common Elements Exam plus three Core Tests in installation, maintenance, and irrigation. The certification provides a national recognition for the individual, while validating their landscapes skills, which could lead to future career advancement. The certified individual's company also gets registered as an employer of a Certified Landscape Technician. To learn more about this national hands-on testing program, contact WALP at (425) 644-7642.

## In the works (continued)

Trees are sanctuaries. Whoever knows  
how to speak to them, whoever knows  
how to listen to them, can learn the truth.  
-Herman Hesse

**TRIVIA:** How many Christmas trees are sold  
every year?

(answer is upside down below)

## Special Announcement

## On the Horizon

**The purpose of the Washington Urban and Community Forestry Program is to assist communities and nonprofit groups in building self-sustaining urban forestry and tree care programs with strong local support.**

Editor: Kevin LeClair, Community Assistance Forester, DNR Urban and Community Forestry Program, P.O. Box 47037, Olympia, WA 98504-7037  
Phone 1-800-523-8733  
Fax (360) 902-1757



PRINTED ON RECYCLED AND RECYCLABLE PAPER

(Roughly 30 million)

## National Tree Trust Seedlings for the Year 2000

If you would like to order seedlings for the year 2000 from the National Tree Trust, get your order forms now. Orders must be placed by May 31, 1999. The number to call is 1-800-846-8733.

## Grant Writing Workshops

The Urban and Community Forestry Program will be hosting two regional grant writing workshops. The first will be held on February 2, in Moses Lake and the second will be in Tacoma on February 4. The half-day workshop will cover topics such as deciding on a project to apply for, describing projects in a compelling manner, working out budgets, and administering money once the grant is awarded. For more details and **to register**, call the TreeLink Hotline at 1-800-523-8733.

## 1999 Urban Forestry Grants

Due to overwhelming response to the Urban Forestry Grants last year, Washington's Urban and Community Forestry Program and the Washington Community Forestry Council have decided to announce the availability of \$75,000 for community forestry projects. The maximum amount available for any project is \$7,500. All grant dollars must be matched, either in hard dollars or in-kind. Eligible grantees include, but are not limited to, municipalities, non-profits and educational institutions. Deadline for applications is March 15, 1999. The total grant amount may be subject to adjustment as budget items are finalized. The grant applications will be available January 19, and you can receive a copy by calling the TreeLink Hotline at 1-800-523-8733. Applications can be downloaded from the web at [www.wagov/dnr/htdocs/rp/urban/urban.htm](http://www.wagov/dnr/htdocs/rp/urban/urban.htm).

## Washington Community Tree Replacement Program

The Urban and Community Forestry Program and Pacific Power will be working with selected applicants to establish local community projects in an effort to improve the health of community forests in Washington cities by replacing large over-mature street and park trees under utility lines with utility-friendly trees. The purposes of this program are:

- ♦ improved public safety
- ♦ educate citizens about the value of trees in cities
- ♦ restored health and vitality of the community forest

If you are interested and live in Agnew, Buena, Burbank, College Place, Dayton, Dixie, Granger, Harrah, Huntsville, Lowden, Mabton, Mervin, Naches, Outlook, Parker, Pomeroy, Prosser, Selah, Sunnyside, Swift, Tieton, Toppenish, Touchet, Union Gap, Waitsburg, Walla Walla, Wallula, Wapato, White Swan, Yakima, Yale, or Zillah, call the TreeLink Hotline at 1-800-523-8733 for more information.

## January

20 PlantAmnesty Board Meeting. 7 to 9 p.m., Location TBA. Anyone interested in learning more about what PlantAmnesty does, or becoming more involved, is invited to attend. For more information, call (206) 783-9813.

20-22 Financing the Urban Forest National Conference. Arbor Day Lied Conference Center, Nebraska City, NE. Inaugural event designed to help communities figure out ways to overcome fiscal challenges of financing urban forest programs. For registration information, call the National Arbor Day Foundation at (402) 474-5655.

## February

2-4 Trees and Utilities National Conference. Arbor Day Lied Conference Center, Nebraska City, NE. A meeting of leaders in utility arboriculture discussing ways of "developing synergy." For more information, call the National Arbor Day Foundation at (402) 474-5655.

17-21 Northwest Flower and Garden Show. Washington State Convention Center. Seattle, WA.